

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one CIM repository, said method comprising:

creating a connection between said object manager and each said at least one CIM ~~repositories~~repository wherein each of the CIM ~~repositories~~repository has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to ~~the~~a repository API, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on said host computer.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on a separate computer.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes

calling a JAVA factory class.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A computer system for interacting with at least one CIM repository, said system comprising:

a CIM object manager including a CIM repository indicator, an associated communication protocol indicator, and program code for interacting with said at least one CIM repository; and

a repository application programming interface (API) including

a factory class arranged to receive said CIM repository indicator and said associated communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager and to produce a protocol-specific object,

a first class having methods defined thereon implemented in a first protocol, and

a second class having methods defined thereon implemented in a second protocol, whereby said protocol-specific object may be returned to said CIM object manager for use in interacting with said at least one CIM repository.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 7 wherein said CIM object manager is arranged to receive a method call from a management application using the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 7 wherein said at least one CIM repository is resident on said computer system.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 7 wherein said computer system and said CIM repository are connected over a network connection implemented in the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 7 wherein the associated communication protocol identified by said associated communication protocol indicator is selected from the group consisting of: LDAP, JDBC or JAVA.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 7 further comprising:

a plurality of CIM repositories, each repository arranged to communicate with said CIM object manager using a different associated communication protocol.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The system of claim 12 wherein each CIM repository is resident on a different computer.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer code for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one CIM repositories, said computer code of said computer-readable medium effecting the following:

creating a connection between said object manager and said at least one CIM repositories wherein each of the CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to the repository API, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising computer code for effecting the following:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

21  
Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 17 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes  
calling a JAVA factory class.

---